



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday  
March 14,  
2023

# DAILY REPORT

33rd  
Legislative  
Day

House Budget & Research Office  
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 34th Legislative Day on Wednesday, March 15 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- Three bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

## Today on the Floor

### Rules Calendar

#### **SB 3 "Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023"; enact**

Bill Summary: SB 3 creates the 'Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023'. The act requires the Department of Administrative Services to regularly assess and reduce, when possible, the requirements for jobs within state government.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Albers (56th)  
**House** Governmental Affairs  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 168 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-09-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

#### **SB 27 Unfair Trade Practices; health care insurer from requiring an ophthalmologist or optometrist to extend any discounts on services that are not covered eye care services; prohibit**

Bill Summary: SB 27 prohibits insurers from requiring ophthalmologists or optometrists to provide a discount on eye services that are not covered to receive increased payments, better reimbursements, preferential treatment, or any other benefit.

**Authored By:** Sen. Matt Brass (28th)  
**House** Insurance  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 167 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 02-22-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

#### **SB 116 Disposition of Municipal Property; the maximum term of certain leases or contracts for the use of property owned by a municipality for recreational facilities; provisions**

Bill Summary: SB 116 requires that municipal leases related to the operation of an arena, sports field, stadium, or other recreational facility must not exceed 20 years, and are not subject to renewal. Such leases must be subject to bids or auction after the initial lease expires.

**Authored By:** Sen. Ben Watson (1st)  
**House** Governmental Affairs  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 170 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-09-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

## Local Calendar

**HB 675 Riceboro, City of; residency requirements for candidacy for office or mayor or councilmember; revise provisions**

Bill Summary: HB 675 revises the city charter for the City of Riceboro relating to the mayor and city council.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Al Williams (168th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 676 Ben Hill County; Board of Education; modify compensation of members**

Bill Summary: HB 676 revises the compensation of the Board of Education of Ben Hill County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Leesa Hagan (156th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 680 Thomasville, City of; City Council and Board of Education; reapportion districts**

Bill Summary: HB 680 changes the city council and board of education districts for the City of Thomasville.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 681 Quitman County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 681 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Quitman County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 682 Seminole County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 682 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Seminole County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 683 Seminole County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 683 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Seminole County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 685 Early County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 685 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Early County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
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<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 686 Early County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 686 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Early County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 688 Miller County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 688 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Miller County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 689 Miller County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 689 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Miller County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 690 Baker County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 690 authorizes a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of Baker County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 691 Baker County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee**

Bill Summary: HB 691 authorizes a technology fee by the Probate Court of Baker County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**SB 104 Cobb County; sheriff compensation; change**

Bill Summary: SB 104 changes the compensation of the sheriff of Cobb County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-13-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 166 Nays: 0	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**SB 231 Richmond County and the City of Augusta; mayor shall be a full voting member of the commission; provide**

Bill Summary: SB 231 revises the voting rights of the mayor of Augusta-Richmond County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Sen. Max Burns (23rd)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	Structured
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**House  
Committee:  
Floor Vote:**

Intragovernmental Coordination -  
Local  
Yeas: 99 Nays: 70

**Committee  
Action:  
Amendments:**

03-13-2023 Do Pass

## **Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules**

*The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 34th Legislative Day, Wednesday, March 15, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Wednesday, March 15, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 35th Legislative Day.*

**SB 46      Control of Sexually Transmitted Disease; physicians and healthcare providers to test all pregnant women for HIV and syphilis at the first prenatal visit, at 28–32 weeks' gestation, and at delivery; require**

Bill Summary: SB 46 requires that a pregnant woman be tested for HIV and syphilis by their prenatal provider at their first prenatal visit, at 28-32 weeks gestation, and at delivery. The patient will have the option to opt out of such testing.

**Authored By:** Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)  
**House** Public Health  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-09-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 120      Motor Carriers; the reference date to federal regulations regarding the safe operation of motor carriers and commercial motor vehicles; update**

Bill Summary: SB 120 updates the 'Uniform Carriers Act' to change the effective date to January 1, 2023, to comply with federal law.

**Authored By:** Sen. Shelly Echols (49th)  
**House** Motor Vehicles  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-09-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 128      Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; the total percentage of funds that can be invested in alternative investments; raise the limit**

Bill Summary: SB 128 allows the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund to increase the maximum amount of assets invested in alternative investments from 10 percent to 15 percent. The bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Albers (56th)  
**House** Retirement  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-07-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

## Committee Actions

*Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.*

### Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

#### SB 149 "Georgia Door-to-Door Sales Act"; enact

Bill Summary: SB 149 creates the 'Georgia Door-to-Door Sales Act' to require the seller in a door-to-door sale to provide the buyer with a notice of cancellation form. A door-to-door sale is defined and does not include the sale of automobiles or large equipment at auctions or tent sales. The bill outlines requirements of the cancellation form, including a timeline when the buyer has the right to cancel the sale.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Albers (56th)  
**House Committee:** Agriculture & Consumer Affairs

**Committee Action:** 03-14-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

### Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee

#### SB 115 Georgia National Guard; the adjutant general to be the official sponsor of the state sponsored life insurance program; provide

Bill Summary: SB 115 creates a state-sponsored life insurance program for members of the Georgia National Guard.

**Authored By:** Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)  
**House Committee:** Defense & Veterans Affairs

**Committee Action:** 03-14-2023 Do Pass

#### SB 144 Adjutant General; include a roster of all commissioned officers in the organized militia in the annual report to the Governor; remove the requirement

Bill Summary: SB 144 removes the requirement for a roster of all commissioned officers in the organized militia be included in the adjutant general's annual report to the governor.

**Authored By:** Sen. Nabilah Islam (7th)  
**House Committee:** Defense & Veterans Affairs

**Committee Action:** 03-14-2023 Do Pass

### Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Committee

#### SB 193 Broadband Services; Department of Community Affairs to determine locations that are eligible for state or federal funding programs administered by the state; provide

Bill Summary: SB 193 allows the Department of Community Affairs to determine locations that are eligible for state and federal funding for broadband services.

**Authored By:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)  
**House Committee:** Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications

**Committee Action:** 03-14-2023 Do Pass

### Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

#### HB 599 Martin, Town of; change number of city council members; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 599 changes the number of city council members for the Town of Martin.

**Authored By:** Rep. Chris Erwin (32nd)

<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass
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**HB 615 Coweta County; State Court; add additional judge**

Bill Summary: HB 615 adds a judge to the State Court of Coweta County.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Lynn Smith (70th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 693 Elbert County; Board of Commissioners; revise provisions relating to filling vacancies**

Bill Summary: HB 693 revises filling vacancies for the board of commissioners of Elbert County.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Rob Leverett (123rd)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 694 DeKalb County; certain judges, judicial and county officers; revise compensation**

Bill Summary: HB 694 revises the compensation of county officers and officials of DeKalb County.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Billy Mitchell (88th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 696 Smyrna, City of; annexation of certain territory; provide**

Bill Summary: HB 696 provides for annexation into the boundaries of the City of Smyrna.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Teri Anulewicz (42nd)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 698 Dooly County; Board of Commissioners; change description of districts**

Bill Summary: HB 698 changes the board of commissioner districts for Dooly County.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Patty Bentley (150th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 699 Social Circle, City of; city councilmembers; reapportion election districts**

Bill Summary: HB 699 changes the city council districts of the City of Social Circle.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Bruce Williamson (112th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 700 Dooly County; Board of Education; change description of districts**

Bill Summary: HB 700 changes the board of education districts for Dooly County.

<b>Author By:</b>	Rep. Patty Bentley (150th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 701 Buford, City of; adopt by reference a certain map**

Bill Summary: HB 701 revises the city boundaries of the City of Buford.

**Author By:** Rep. David Clark (100th)

<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass
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**HB 704 Milton, City of; mayor and councilmembers; modify provisions related to compensation**

Bill Summary: HB 704 revises the compensation of the mayor and city council of the City of Milton.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Jan Jones (47th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 705 Milton, City of; city council; change description of election districts**

Bill Summary: HB 705 changes the city council districts of the City of Milton.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Jan Jones (47th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**HB 707 Coweta County; Board of Education; provide compensation**

Bill Summary: HB 707 revises the compensation of the board of education for Coweta County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Lynn Smith (70th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**SB 108 Board of Education of McDuffie County; board member term limits; remove**

Bill Summary: SB 108 removes board member term limits for the Board of Education of McDuffie County.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Sen. Max Burns (23rd)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

**SB 178 "Macon Water Authority Act"; code of conduct for board members, officers, and employees; provide**

Bill Summary: SB 178 provides a code of conduct for the Macon Water Authority.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Sen. John Kennedy (18th)		
<b>House Committee:</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination - Local	<b>Committee Action:</b>	03-14-2023 Do Pass

## Judiciary Committee

**SB 59 Governor; Office of the Inspector General; establish**

Bill Summary: SB 59 establishes the Office of the Inspector General, with its purpose to investigate the management and operation of agencies. It is assigned to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes only as described in Code Section 50-4-3.

The inspector general will have jurisdiction over persons or agencies in the executive branch, as well as persons doing business with an agency or receiving state funding. The inspector general investigates complaints alleging fraud, waste, or corruption committed against or within an agency in the state, in addition to other duties assigned by the governor.

When investigating, the inspector general is authorized to issue subpoenas, enter the premises of any agency at any time without prior announcement, and employ peace officers to obtain, serve, and execute search warrants. The bill compels agencies to cooperate with any investigation, and provides



a cause for discipline to any employee who knowingly fails to comply with an investigation. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the inspector general will issue a report to the Office of the Governor.

**Authored By:** Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)  
**House** Judiciary  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 64 Birth Certificate; issuance of a copy of the original birth certificate to certain adult persons who were adopted; provide**

Bill Summary: SB 64 allows an adult who had been adopted to request and receive a copy of their original Georgia birth certificate following payment of a fee. The copy will indicate it is not a certified copy. A parent, sibling, or descendant of a deceased person may receive a copy of the decedent's birth certificate under the same procedure.

**Authored By:** Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
**House** Judiciary  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 66 Superior Courts; Atlantic Judicial Circuit; additional judge; provide**

Bill Summary: SB 66 increases the number of superior court judges in the Atlantic Judicial Circuit from four to five. The fifth judge will be appointed for a term beginning July 1, 2023, and an election will take place at the 2024 nonpartisan judicial election.

**Authored By:** Sen. Billy Hickman (4th)  
**House** Judiciary  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 148 Nonprofit Corporations; comprehensively revise, simplify, and modernize said chapter**

Bill Summary: SB 148 provides comprehensive revisions to the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, including updates, clarifications, and modernizations. Sections are updated to account for grammatical corrections, new definitions, changes from the Georgia Business Code for consistency, and changes for consistency with operations of Secretary of State and Attorney General's offices.

The bill revises quorum requirements of nonprofit corporations to be a majority of the voting power unless bylaws provide otherwise, and requires that the secretary of a nonprofit be a separate person from the chief executive officer. Executive directors are to be designated as officers, unless articles provide otherwise, and are subject to duties of care and good faith. Executive directors are also subject to conflict of interest rules. The minimum number of directors in non-member nonprofits is revised from one to three, and directors are afforded an express right of access to corporate information and an ability to enforce that right in court. Directors are afforded the same indemnification protections for nonprofits as are provided in the business code.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Kennedy (18th)  
**House** Judiciary  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

## Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

**SB 42 Human Trafficking Hotline Information; model notice requirements; increase the fine for failure to comply**

Bill Summary: SB 42 revises the penalty for businesses violating the requirement that businesses post signage making people aware of the human trafficking hotline. A law enforcement officer is required to notify a business of its noncompliance, and the owner is required to comply within 30 days of receipt of the notice. Currently, the punishment is discretionary, although the bill changes it to mandatory.

Further, the fine is revised from being a maximum fine of \$500 to instead be between \$500 and

\$1,000. Upon a second or subsequent offense, it is still a high and aggravated misdemeanor, but the bill clarifies that the fine is between \$1,000 and \$5,000. Currently, that fine is listed as a maximum of \$5,000 without a minimum.

**Authored By:** Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 44 Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act; mandatory minimum penalties for violations; provide**

**Bill Summary:** SB 44 clarifies that it is unlawful for a person to indirectly through another person: cause, encourage, solicit, recruit, or coerce another to become a member of a criminal street gang; to participate in a criminal street gang; or to participate in criminal gang activity. The bill defines "dangerous weapon", "firearm", "hazardous object", and "leader". Under Section II, the default penalty for violating O.C.G.A. 16-15-4 is a felony with increased imprisonment of between five and 20 years, to be served consecutively with other sentences, and with a mandatory minimum of five years.

If a person recruits others to join a criminal street gang and the violation involves a person who is under 17 years old or a person who has a disability, then that person is subject to imprisonment of between 10 years and 20 years for a first offense, which must be served consecutively and with a mandatory minimum of 10 years. Upon a second or subsequent offense, the penalty is imprisonment of between 15 years and 25 years, which must be served consecutively and with a mandatory minimum of 15 years. A mandatory minimum sentence imposed under this offense is unable to be departed from by a court.

A court can only depart from a mandatory minimum sentence if a district attorney or the attorney general agree and the convicted person provides substantial assistance in the identification, arrest, or conviction, of other members of the criminal street gang. The individual must also meet five different requirements to be eligible, and if a judge departs from the mandatory minimum, then they must specify on the record the circumstances for the reduction. This decision is appealed by the state.

The bill adds an extra condition to when a judge can issue a bond on a person's own recognizance, or unsecured judicial release. To be eligible, the release must be noted on the release order. The person must not be charged with a bail restricted offense. The person must not have been convicted of an offense of bail jumping within the past five years. The person must not have had a bench warrant issued for their arrest based on a failure to appear within the past five years, unless the warrant was recalled or the offense was a nonserious traffic offense.

A person can contest their ineligibility for unsecured judicial release on the basis that their criminal history record is inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading. If it is contested, the prosecutor bears the burden of establishing the person's ineligibility. A judge can also issue an unsecured judicial release for pretrial release or diversion if it is noted on the release order and the person is not charged with a bail restricted offense. A judge is only required to consider the accused's criminal history record that is available at that time.

**Authored By:** Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

**SB 60 Secondary Metals Recyclers; it shall be illegal for certain persons to purchase, possess, obtain, or sell or attempt to purchase, possess, obtain, or sell; provide**

**Bill Summary:** Section 1-1 of Senate Bill 591 amends O.C.G.A. 10-1-350 to create new definitions for "copper wire," "registered agent," "used communications copper," and "used utility wire." The bill amends O.C.G.A. 10-1-351 to define the term "used, detached catalytic converter."

Section 1-2 of the bill makes it a crime to purchase, solicit for the purchase of, or advertise for the purchase of a used, detached catalytic converter, or any non-ferrous metal parts of a catalytic

converter, unless such person is a registered secondary metals recycler. Further, it is unlawful for any person to buy, possess, transport, or sell, a used, detached catalytic converter or any non-ferrous metal parts of a catalytic converter, unless such person is authorized to under O.C.G.A. 10-1-351(c) and is in possession of the required registrations and licenses. Each unlawfully possessed or obtained used, detached catalytic converter is a separate offense.

Section 1-3 requires secondary metals recyclers to maintain a record of the documentation of a cash transaction involving regulated metal property.

Under Section 1-4, secondary metals recyclers are allowed to pay in cash, but are prohibited from: paying any seller more than \$100 in cash for any transaction, limited to two per seller, per day, per registered location; and paying cash to any seller for catalytic converters or coils, used utility wire, used communications copper, copper wire, or a battery. This section does not apply to transactions between business entities, unless that transaction is related to catalytic converters.

Section 1-5 makes O.C.G.A. 10-1-358 applicable to catalytic converters, which relates to entities that are exempt from the Article 14, Chapter 1, of Title 10.

Section 1-6 allows a sheriff's office to: 1) charge \$200 for renewals of annual registrations of secondary metal recyclers; 2) require a valid business license; 3) require a registered agent to submit to a criminal background check and fingerprinting; 4) deny the registration or renewal if the person's registration has been revoked in another county, the information provided was false, or if the background check revealed a previous conviction of a metal theft offense more than three times in a five-year period; 5) revoke the registration of a secondary metal recycler's registered agent if the agent has been convicted of a felony in the previous five years under Title 10 ("Commerce and Trade"), Chapter 1 ("Selling and Other Trade Practices"), Article 14 ("Secondary Metals Recyclers"); 6) require secondary metals recyclers to provide a customer identification number for the current database contractor maintained by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation; and 7) require a secondary metals recycler to submit a signed and sworn statement saying the business license or registration has not been revoked during the past year and that the agent has not been convicted of a metal theft offense in the previous year.

Section 1-7 adds a felony penalty when the regulated metal property is unlawfully obtained and results in property damage exceeding \$1,500. This section also clarifies that each unlawfully possessed or obtained used, detached catalytic converter is a separate offense.

Section 1-8 makes a used, catalytic converter that is possessed in violation of O.C.G.A. 10-1-351(d) and any vehicle used in the transportation of that catalytic converter subject to civil forfeiture.

Section 1-9 requires secondary metals recyclers to provide a statement to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation regarding whether their registration or business license has been revoked, suspended, or canceled in the previous year. The section also requires each recycler to submit to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation a receipt of each purchase of a used, catalytic converter or any nonferrous metal parts from an industrial account or secondary metal recycler. The report must include the name and address of the seller; the date, time, and place of the transaction; and the number of used, detached catalytic converters purchased.

Part II removes limitations on how payments can be made for regulated metal property by secondary metal recyclers under O.C.G.A. 10-1-355.

Part III provides the effective dates of the bill. Part III and all of Part I, except for Section 1-4, are effective January 1, 2024. Part II is effective January 1, 2026.

**Authored By:** Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023  
**Action:**

**SB 181 Georgia Technology Authority; authority to conduct certain fingerprint criminal background checks of all current and prospective employees; require**

Bill Summary: SB 181 allows the Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) to require fingerprint criminal background checks of employees and applicants for employment who will have access to or be in proximity to IT systems that normally are not intended to provide direct access to tax documents but that may provide such access. Record checks must be made at least once every five years.

The GTA can also require fingerprint criminal background checks of contractors and subcontractors, or applicants for those roles, who are reasonably anticipated to have access to, be in physical proximity to, or be in IT-related proximity to tax documents. Record checks must be made at least once every 10 years.

On January 1, 2025, the GTA will have the ability to conduct fingerprint criminal background checks of all current and prospective employees, regardless of the position's proximity to tax documents.

**Authored By:** Sen. Chuck Payne (54th)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

## Motor Vehicles Committee

**SB 35 Special License Plates; specialty license plate honoring Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc; establish**

Bill Summary: SB 35 changes the design of specialty license plates for retired members of the reserve and Georgia National Guard by displaying "Retired" in lieu of the county of issuance.

The bill allows amateur radio operators with an unrevoked or expired license to receive one free specialty license plate.

The bill revises the criteria for ad valorem taxation exemption for disabled veterans.

**Authored By:** Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
**House** Motor Vehicles  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

## Public Health Committee

**SB 140 Hospitals; the treatment of gender dysphoria in minors performed in hospitals and other licensed healthcare facilities; prohibit certain surgical procedures**

Bill Summary: SB 140 prohibits the use of sex reassignment surgeries and hormone replacement therapies on minors in a licensed institution for the treatment of gender dysphoria. Exceptions include treatment of sex development disorders, androgen insensitivity syndrome, and other medical conditions. Additionally, minors who began hormone replacement therapies before July 1, 2023 are exempt. Licensed physicians in violation will be held administratively responsible by the medical board.

**Authored By:** Sen. Carden Summers (13th)  
**House** Public Health  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

## Regulated Industries Committee

**SB 195 "Freedom to Work Act"; enact**

Bill Summary: SB 195 requires a professional licensing board or other board to issue an expedited license by endorsement to an active duty member of the U.S. military, or that person's spouse: 1)

holds a current license to practice the profession or trade in another state with a similar scope of practice; 2) has held that license for at least one year; 3) is in good standing in the other state; 4) does not have a pending complaint or allegation before a governmental entity in that state regarding unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime; 5) does not have a disqualifying criminal record; 6) passes any required examination; and 7) pays all applicable fees required by the professional licensing board or other board.

A service member or their spouse can apply for a license by endorsement based on work experience in another state when they: 1) worked in a profession, business, or trade in another state that does not require a license to regulate the occupation but in which Georgia does; 2) worked in a profession, business, or trade in another state for at least three years; 3) does not have a pending complaint or allegation before a governmental entity in that state regarding unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime; 4) does not have a disqualifying criminal record; 5) passes any required examination; and 6) pays all applicable fees required by the professional licensing board or other board.

Expedited licenses by endorsement must be issued within 30 days from the date of receipt of the application, and required documents and information. These licenses are only valid in Georgia and do not make the licensee eligible to work in another state under an interstate compact or reciprocity agreement, unless otherwise provided. The bill repeals O.C.G.A. 43-50-42, which provided for issuance and renewal of temporary licenses for transitioning service members who are within 24 months of retirement or 12 months of separation.

The effective date of this bill is March 1, 2024.

**Authored By:** Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)  
**House** Regulated Industries  
**Committee:**

**Committee** 03-14-2023 Do Pass  
**Action:**

## Committee Meeting Schedule

*This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change. To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit [www.legis.ga.gov](http://www.legis.ga.gov) to view all upcoming events.*

### Wednesday - March 15, 2023

8:00 AM	<a href="#">INSURANCE COMMITTEE (House)</a>	606 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
8:00 AM	<a href="#">Governmental Affairs State &amp; Local Government Subcommittee (House)</a>	415 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
8:00 AM	<a href="#">Ways &amp; Means Sales Tax Subcommittee (House)</a>	403 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
8:15 AM	<a href="#">Ways &amp; Means Public Finance &amp; Policy Subcommittee (House)</a>	403 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
8:30 AM	<a href="#">EDUCATION COMMITTEE (House)</a>	515 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
9:00 AM	<a href="#">RULES COMMITTEE (House)</a>	341 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
10:00 AM	<a href="#">FLOOR SESSION (LD 34) (House)</a>	House Chamber	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	
1:00 PM	<a href="#">HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE (House)</a>	606 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
1:00 PM	<a href="#">PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (House)</a>	515 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
1:00 PM	<a href="#">Judiciary Non-Civil Hong Subcommittee (House)</a>	132 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
1:00 PM	<a href="#">PUBLIC SAFETY &amp; HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE (House)</a>	506 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
2:00 PM	<a href="#">JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE (House)</a>	415 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
2:00 PM	<a href="#">HUMAN RELATIONS &amp; AGING COMMITTEE (House)</a>	406 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
3:00 PM	<a href="#">GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (House)</a>	606 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
3:00 PM	<a href="#">HEALTH COMMITTEE (House)</a>	403 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
3:00 PM	<a href="#">INDUSTRY &amp; LABOR COMMITTEE (House)</a>	506 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
4:00 PM	<a href="#">SPECIAL RULES COMMITTEE (House)</a>	406 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	